

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) No information of diversion of funds allocated for tribal welfare by any State Government has been reported to this Ministry during the last three years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The funds released to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are expected to be utilized within 12 months from the closure of the financial year. In order to ensure that the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry are utilized properly and expeditiously, the Ministry insists on utilisation certificates before releasing any further funds. The Ministry also regularly monitors the implementation of various tribal welfare schemes through review meetings with the State Government officials.

### **Polavaram Irrigation Project**

2855. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted Polavaram Irrigation Project proposal for clearance to his Ministry;

(b) whether the proposal received from the State Government;

(c) whether his Ministry had started the exercise for clearance of the project; and

(d) the time-frame by which the project would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PR. KYNDIAH): (a) to (d) A proposal for clearance of Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) Plan for Scheduled Tribes Project Affected Families in respect of Polavaram Irrigation Project of Andhra Pradesh was received. The proposal has been examined. The project involves the States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh as well. The inter-state issues are required to be resolved by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. In addition, the State Governments concerned are also required to fulfill the statutory requirement prescribed under Section 4(i) of

[18 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 mandating prior consultations with the affected Gram Sabhas or Panchayats.

### **Displacement of tribals from Godavari Projects**

2856. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate total eventual displacement of tribals from river projects on the river Godavari in the first five years of the said Project;

(b) the threshold figure fixed by Government of the tribals in a contiguous area by which the Anthropological Survey of India would give its opinion on dispersal;

(c) which agencies have been empanelled to give a socio-cultural report on the long-term impact of the dispersal, separation and dislocation of a tribal community in these circumstances; and

(d) the steps proposed to ask all State Governments to give a socio-cultural report on impact of sudden and enforced dispersal to tribals?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PR. KYNDIAH): (a) As per information received from Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, approximately 22979 families of tribals from river projects on the river Godavari are required to be displaced in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa.

(b) The provisions of National Policy on Resettlement & Rehabilitation (NPRR) - 2003 are applicable to projects displacing 500 families or more *en masse* in plain areas or 250 families or more in hilly areas, Desert Development Programme (DDP) Blocks or areas mentioned in Schedule V or Schedule VI of Constitution of India.

(c) Agricultural Finance Corporation Limited and Tribal Research Institute of Andhra Pradesh are the agencies empanelled to give socio-cultural report on resettlement and rehabilitation in respect of Polavaram Dam of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The draft National Tribal Policy - 2006 envisages exhaustive social impact assessment before initiating a development project.